

*\*E-FILED - 5/11/10\**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RAUL UVALLES, ) No. C 09-5221 RMW (PR)  
Plaintiff, ) ORDER OF SERVICE;  
v. ) DIRECTING DEFENDANTS TO  
FRANCISCO JACQUEZ, Warden, et al., ) FILE DISPOSITIVE MOTION  
Defendants. ) OR NOTICE REGARDING  
 ) SUCH MOTION

Plaintiff, a state prisoner proceeding pro se, filed an amended civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. For the reasons stated below, the court orders service on the named defendants.

## DISCUSSION

#### A. Standard of Review

A federal court must conduct a preliminary screening in any case in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). In its review, the court must identify any cognizable claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. See id. § 1915A(b)(1), (2). Pro se pleadings must, however, be liberally construed. See Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep’t, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988).

1 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must allege two essential elements:  
2 (1) that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States was violated, and (2) that  
3 the alleged violation was committed by a person acting under the color of state law. See West v.  
4 Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988).

5 B. Plaintiff's Claims

6 Plaintiff alleges that in June 2008, he was placed in the Behavior Management Unit,  
7 which meant that he was on lockdown with no yard. On September 7, 2008, there was a staff  
8 assault at the prison and, as a result, all blocks which housed “classified Northern Hispanics”  
9 were “barstrapped.” On October 23, 2008, plaintiff was removed by the Investigative Service  
10 Unit from the Behavior Management Unit, and placed on Contraband Surveillance Watch  
11 (“CSW”) only because he was a Mexican from Northern California. Plaintiff was in CSW from  
12 October 23, 2008 through October 27, 2008.

13 Being housed in CSW resulted in considerable hardships for plaintiff -- he had no  
14 shower, no blankets, and was in restraints at all times. Specifically, one of the restraints is a  
15 “tube” in which he had to place his hands. Plaintiff repeatedly complained of pain in his hands  
16 which were bruised at the wrist and swollen, to no avail. While plaintiff was in CSW, he was  
17 forced to urinate and defecate with only one hand free from the tube and in front of several male  
18 and female correctional officers. Nurse Gavin saw plaintiff’s hands and observed that the tubing  
19 could result in nerve damage to plaintiff’s hands.

20 Plaintiff began suffering a knee infection as well as back pain from being in CSW for so  
21 long without adequate basic necessities. On February 10, 2009, plaintiff again was placed in  
22 CSW and again placed in restraints, including the “tube.” The following day, plaintiff again  
23 complained of hand swelling from the “tube” as well as back pain. Later that day, medical staff  
24 saw plaintiff and determined that he had nerve damage on top of his hand. Presently, plaintiff  
25 continues to suffer from back pain, numbness in his back, and shoulder pain.

26 Liberally construed, plaintiff raises cognizable claims of cruel and unusual punishment,  
27 invasion of bodily privacy, deliberate indifference to serious medical needs, and a violation of  
28 equal protection.

In addition, the court notes that plaintiff again names several “unidentified” defendants in his complaint. The use of “Doe” defendants is not favored in the Ninth Circuit. See Gillespie v. Civiletti, 629 F.2d 637, 642 (9th Cir. 1980). However, where the identity of alleged defendants cannot be known prior to the filing of a complaint the plaintiff should be given an opportunity through discovery to identify them. Id. Failure to afford the plaintiff such an opportunity is error. See Wakefield v. Thompson, 177 F.3d 1160, 1163 (9th Cir. 1999). Accordingly, Doe defendants are DISMISSED from this action without prejudice. Should plaintiff learn the identity of any Doe defendants through discovery, he may move to file an amendment to the complaint to add the individuals as named defendants. See Brass v. County of Los Angeles, 328 F.3d 1192, 1195-98 (9th Cir. 2003).

## CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the court hereby orders as follows:

13       1. The clerk shall issue a summons and the United States Marshal shall serve,  
14 without prepayment of fees, copies of the amended complaint in this matter (docket no. 13), all  
15 attachments thereto, and copies of this order on **Warden Francisco Jacquez, Associate**  
16 **Warden D.W. Bradbury, Associate Warden M.J. Nimrod, Captain R.K. Bell, Captain J.**  
17 **Silva, Captain R.L. Johnson, Lt. J. Diggle, Lt. C. Parry, Lt. J.A. McKinney (ISU), Sgt.**  
18 **Acost, Sgt. Henderson, Sgt. Hicks, Sgt. Kerr, Sgt. Maxwell, Sgt. Traylor, C/O M. Cleary**  
19 **(ISU), C/O J. Hernandez (ISU), C/O R. Drown (ISU), C/O J. Dickerson (ISU), S/O Stout**  
20 **(ISU), M.C. Sayre, MD, C/O D. Mount, Dr. Capitano, RN P. Crinklaw, C/O B. Cater, C/O**  
21 **J. Gonzalez, C/O P. Barnes, C/O B. Jones, C/O J. Johnson, C/O R. Allen, C/O J. Shaw, C/O**  
22 **F. Palaccio, C/O D. DeWitt, C/O D. Fabela, RN Linda Gavin, LVN Steve Nakamura, LVN**  
23 **Carolyn Williams, RN C. Duncan, RN D. Timme, LVN C. McAllister, LVN K. Aubim, and**  
24 **C/O Branion at Pelican Bay State Prison in Crescent City, California.** The clerk shall also  
25 serve a copy of this order on plaintiff and mail a courtesy copy of the amended complaint to the  
26 California Attorney General's Office.

27       2. No later than **ninety (90) days** from the date of this order, defendant shall file a  
28 motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion with respect to the cognizable claims

1 for failure to protect, retaliation, and sexual orientation discrimination in the complaint.

2       a.      If defendant elects to file a motion to dismiss on the grounds that plaintiff  
3 failed to exhaust his available administrative remedies as required by 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(a),  
4 defendants shall do so in an unenumerated Rule 12(b) motion pursuant to Wyatt v. Terhune, 315  
5 F.3d 1108, 1119-20 (9th Cir. 2003).

6       b.      Any motion for summary judgment shall be supported by adequate factual  
7 documentation and shall conform in all respects to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil  
8 Procedure. **Defendant is advised that summary judgment cannot be granted, nor qualified**  
9 **immunity found, if material facts are in dispute. If defendant is of the opinion that this**  
10 **case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, he shall so inform the court prior to the**  
11 **date the summary judgment motion is due.**

12      3.     Plaintiff's opposition to the dispositive motion shall be filed with the court and  
13 served on defendants no later than **thirty (30) days** from the date defendant's motion is filed.

14       a.     In the event defendant files an unenumerated motion to dismiss under  
15 Rule 12(b), plaintiff is hereby cautioned as follows:<sup>1</sup>

16           The defendants have made a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b) of  
17 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on the ground you have not exhausted your  
18 administrative remedies. The motion will, if granted, result in the dismissal of  
19 your case. When a party you are suing makes a motion to dismiss for failure to  
20 exhaust, and that motion is properly supported by declarations (or other sworn  
21 testimony) and/or documents, you may not simply rely on what your complaint  
says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in declarations, depositions, answers  
to interrogatories, or documents, that contradict the facts shown in the defendant's  
declarations and documents and show that you have in fact exhausted your  
claims. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, the motion to  
dismiss, if appropriate, may be granted and the case dismissed.

22       b.     In the event defendant files a motion for summary judgment, the  
23 Ninth Circuit has held that the following notice should be given to plaintiffs:

24           The defendants have made a motion for summary judgment by which  
25 they seek to have your case dismissed. A motion for summary judgment under  
Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will, if granted, end your case.

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<sup>1</sup> The following notice is adapted from the summary judgment notice to be given to pro se  
28 prisoners as set forth in Rand v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952, 963 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc). See  
Wyatt v. Terhune, 315 F.3d at 1120 n.14.

1           Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for  
2 summary judgment. Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there is  
3 no genuine issue of material fact--that is, if there is no real dispute about any fact  
4 that would affect the result of your case, the party who asked for summary  
5 judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, which will end your case.  
6 When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary judgment that is  
7 properly supported by declarations (or other sworn testimony), you cannot simply  
8 rely on what your complaint says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in  
9 declarations, depositions, answers to interrogatories, or authenticated documents,  
10 as provided in Rule 56(e), that contradict the facts shown in the defendants'  
11 declarations and documents and show that there is a genuine issue of material fact  
12 for trial. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, summary  
13 judgment, if appropriate, may be entered against you. If summary judgment is  
14 granted in favor of defendants, your case will be dismissed and there will be no  
15 trial.

16           See Rand v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952, 963 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc). Plaintiff is advised to read  
17 Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317  
18 (1986) (holding party opposing summary judgment must come forward with evidence showing  
19 triable issues of material fact on every essential element of his claim). Plaintiff is cautioned that  
20 failure to file an opposition to defendant's motion for summary judgment may be deemed to be a  
21 consent by plaintiff to the granting of the motion, and granting of judgment against plaintiff  
22 without a trial. See Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (per curiam); Brydges  
23 v. Lewis, 18 F.3d 651, 653 (9th Cir. 1994).

24           4. Defendant shall file a reply brief no later than **fifteen (15) days** after plaintiff's  
25 opposition is filed.

26           5. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the reply brief is due. No  
27 hearing will be held on the motion unless the court so orders at a later date.

28           6. All communications by the plaintiff with the court must be served on defendant,  
29 or defendant's counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing a true copy of the  
30 document to defendant or defendant's counsel.

31           7. Discovery may be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.  
32 No further court order is required before the parties may conduct discovery.

33           For plaintiff's information, the proper manner of promulgating discovery is to send  
34 demands for documents or interrogatories (questions asking for specific, factual responses)  
35 directly to defendants' counsel. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 33-34. The scope of discovery is limited to

1 matters "relevant to the claim or defense of any party . . ." See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).  
2 Discovery may be further limited by court order if "(i) the discovery sought is unreasonably  
3 cumulative or duplicative, or is obtainable from some other source that is more convenient, less  
4 burdensome, or less expensive; (ii) the party seeking discovery has had ample opportunity by  
5 discovery in the action to obtain the information sought; or (iii) the burden or expense of the  
6 proposed discovery outweighs its likely benefit." Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2). In order to comply  
7 with the requirements of Rule 26, before deciding to promulgate discovery plaintiff may find it  
8 to his benefit to wait until defendants have filed a dispositive motion which could include some  
9 or all of the discovery plaintiff might seek. In addition, no motion to compel will be considered  
10 by the Court unless the meet-and-confer requirement of Rule 37(a)(2)(B) and N.D. Cal. Local  
11 Rule 37-1 has been satisfied. Because plaintiff is detained, he is not required to meet and confer  
12 with defendants in person. Rather, if his discovery requests are denied and he intends to seek a  
13 motion to compel he must send a letter to defendants to that effect, offering them one last  
14 opportunity to provide him with the sought-after information.

15       8. It is plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. Plaintiff must keep the court  
16 and all parties informed of any change of address and must comply with the court's orders in a  
17 timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute  
18 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

19           IT IS SO ORDERED.

20 DATED: 5/11/10

  
RONALD M. WHYTE  
United States District Judge